

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 18 2005

Applicant: Darren James Zellak ] Before the Examiner  
CONNECTOR COUPLING/DECOUPLING TOOL ] Paul T. Chin  
Serial No. 10/673,116 ] Art Unit 3652  
Filed 09/29/2003 ] Atty. Docket RI92403

Hon Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

Sir:

Responsive to the Office action mailed 12/30/2004 in the above application, applicant elects with traverse Claims 3-5, 8-15 and 21, drawn to an apparatus for gripping, classified in Class 294, Subclass 100.

Applicant respectfully traverses the requirement for restriction on the ground that the product and method are related, and in the belief that the method can be practiced substantially only with the claimed article, and that the article is substantially useful substantially only with regard to the practice of the claimed method.

The examiner has suggested that if the article claims are elected, further election is required between the species shown in Figures 1-7 and the species shown in Figures 8 and 9. Applicant respectfully traverses such a further election requirement, as the species shown in Figures 8 and 9 is a substantially round alternative version of the rectilinear embodiment of the tool shown in Figures 1 - 7 and is not believed to be patentably distinct from that version. However, if a requirement for restriction is continued, applicant provisionally elects to prosecute claims only to the species of Figures 1-7 and not to Figures 8 and 9. Applicant further submit that article Claims 21 and 22 and method Claim 23 appearing in the Listing of Claims are generic to all species shown in the drawings.

**Authorization to Charge Fees to Deposit Account 06-0040**

Fees as may be required in this application may be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0040  
of the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

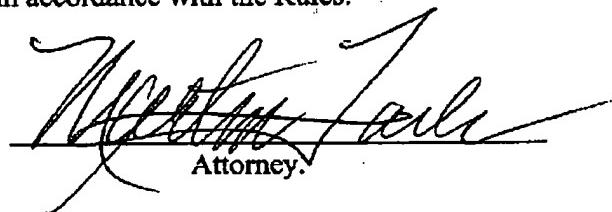


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**CERTIFICATE OF SUBMISSION BY FACSIMILE**

I certify that this ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE was submitted to the US Patent and  
Trademark Office via fax phone 703/872-9306, the number provided by the examiner in the Action  
to which this paper responds, on January 18, 2005, in accordance with the Rules.



Attorney.